



## SITUATION UPDATE ON FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN as of 9/29/2023

The federal government will shut down on Oct. 1st if Congress is unable to reach an agreement on federal FY 2024 appropriations by midnight on Sept. 30. GOPB will continue to monitor the shutdown status and provide updates as new information becomes available.

### NEAR-TERM MATERIAL IMPACTS

### 30-DAY MITIGATION PLAN

#### National Parks & Federal Lands

- A government shutdown will impact the operations of national parks, monuments, and other federally managed areas throughout the state. This includes the closure of visitor centers, a pause in custodial services like trash collection and public restroom cleaning, shuttle services, and more.
- Utah is in the top three states for total economic output from national park visitor spending at \$2.6 billion. Utah is also in the top three states for jobs supported by national park economic output at 23,300.
- The Department of Interior has [indicated](#) that states may fund operations within national parks, but will not be reimbursed.
- Utah's national parks are developing contingency plans to provide minimum services for visitor health, protection, and safety.

- The Utah Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity is making available grant funding to keep our national parks and federal recreation areas open, in partnership with the nonprofits that assist impacted sites. Deployment of resources will be shaped by the nature of the shutdown (levels of staffing).
- Marketing efforts are underway to invite visitors to Utah's 46 state parks.
- The state will use existing funds to operate the Cultural Site Stewardship Program (1,500 volunteers) to help monitor and protect archeological and paleontological sites.
- A [press release](#) from the Governor's Office was issued outlining the state's commitment to keep the parks open.

#### Women, Infants & Children Program (WIC)

- Funding for the WIC program will stop on October 1, 2023 if the federal government shuts down.
  - **42,565 Total Recipients (9/26/23)**
    - 9,836 Women
    - 9,659 Infants
    - 23,070 Children

- The USDA will distribute recovery funds to the state to support the WIC program. It is unknown how long USDA will be able to fund WIC, but funds are expected to sustain the program through the first month of the shutdown.
- Plans are being developed to mitigate impacts should the shutdown be extended after October.

#### National Guard

- Furloughs will be necessary in 2 to 3 weeks. The federal government will provide clarification on which positions are essential.
- Employees deemed essential by the federal government will work without pay; furloughed employees will be on leave without pay. It is expected that essential employees will receive back-pay.

- The Utah National Guard has enough money to pay all employees for one pay-period following the government shutdown.
- The National Guard does not anticipate needing state funds to cover the cost of essential employees, as they will receive reimbursement from the federal government when the shutdown ends.

#### Federally Funded State Employees

- Agencies identified nearly 100 employees, as well as 237 National Guardsmen, that could be furloughed due to a federal shutdown.
- Depending on the duration of the shutdown, split federal and state funded employees may be partially furloughed, depending on the nature of their work and the specific federal funding source.
- Agencies are monitoring [federal agency contingency plans](#) for guidance.

- During the initial stages of the shutdown, it is not anticipated there will be a need to furlough split-funded employees.
- If grant balances are not available or a position is non-essential, agencies will evaluate the nature of the funding agreement in place for each position to determine whether furloughs are necessary.
- GOPB and DHRM are working with agencies to provide proactive guidance on furlough plans and procedures.